

Exhibit 6

NC FULL LEGISLATURE 12.16.2024

NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE

FULL LEGISLATURE MEETING

HOWARD J. KOPEL, PRESIDING OFFICER

County Executive and Legislative Building

1550 Franklin Avenue

Mineola, New York

Monday, December 16, 2024

1:20 p.m.

TAKEN BY: ALEXA LORENZO, OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

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PRESIDING OFFICER KOPEL: Resolution
12, which designates the official
newspaper for the County of Nassau for
the year 2025.

Motion by Deputy Presiding Officer
McKevitt. Seconded by Legislator
Ferretti.

LEGISLATOR DAVIS: Can I be heard on
this?

PRESIDING OFFICER KOPEL: All right.
Legislator Davis.

LEGISLATOR DAVIS: So in terms of the
designation of an official County
newspaper, the common sense seems to me
that the newspaper that we should be
using is the one that reaches the most
people. The idea of good government is
that we are transparent, that what we do
is scrutinized, and that we're
accountable for what we do. It's my
understanding that *Newsday* has been the
official newspaper of the Legislature of
the County since the inception of the
Legislature, and we modified, by

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resolution, we amended the Charter in June of this year. And when I say we, it wasn't a unanimous decision. It was along party lines. And I'm trying to figure out or look at why we're doing this. And one of the best metrics or ways we can look at it is by numbers. And I do have some numbers that I want everyone to know. So it's my understanding through Scarborough and Nielsen data that between the dates of February and October of 2024, *Newsday* has a weekly readership of 440,000 readers in Nassau County. The *New York Post* has a weekly readership rate of almost half, 227,000 weekly readers. So why the change? Why now? Why go to an official newspaper that has less readership?

I took the liberty of looking at a little bit more detail, *Newsday* and *The Post*, and I looked at something that I thought would be very instructive and something that I think all of us here in the legislature and all those who are

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2 listening should consider: *Newsday* has a
3 slogan, and that slogan is, "Your eye on
4 Long Island". *Newsday* is based in Long
5 Island, in Melville, but certainly we're
6 all familiar with their articles. We're
7 all familiar with their reporters. We're
8 all familiar with their scrutiny for all
9 of us.

10 I looked at *The New York Post* to see
11 what their slogan was; there isn't one. I
12 looked to see where *The Post* is
13 headquartered, and they're on Avenue of
14 the Americas in New York City. So we have
15 to ask ourselves, why are we doing this?
16 Why are we going to a newspaper that is
17 not hyperlocal? Why are we going to a
18 newspaper that has less weekly
19 readership? Why are we going to a
20 newspaper that is based in New York City
21 and not in Long Island? Why did we amend
22 the County Charter in order to facilitate
23 this? This is what makes all of us look
24 bad. Because people look at this and
25 they and they wonder, why are we doing

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it? People have the right. And me as a new legislator, I welcome the scrutiny. I welcome my feet held to the fire and accountability. And I think we all should. And when we're making decisions that are blatantly political and they have an adverse impact on the scrutiny that the public can place on us, it's just bad government and we shouldn't do this.

PRESIDING OFFICER KOPEL: Okay.

Thank you, Legislator Davis.

I will just set forth a few comments about why this was done and relating to some of the items that you just discussed.

First of all, in terms of the circulation, I know the *Newsday* has declined to provide it directly. I'm going to finish. I didn't interrupt you. You're not going to interrupt me. *Newsday* has exhibited consistent bias in terms of its editorial content and certainly they've exhibited an inability

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to distinguish between reporting news and
and their editorial opinions, which seep
into the news. They have historically
misquoted, quoted out of context. Going
beyond that, in terms of the
distribution, New York Post has -- by the
way, I should mention it's the oldest
continuously published paper in the
country founded by Alexander Hamilton --
it has a significant readership here in
Nassau County. *Newsday* has a paywall,
which blocks people from going ahead and
reading what's going on over here. As
well as even reading the notices that the
County publishes, those are all blocked
by a paywall. *New York Post* does not have
one. *New York Post* has promised to
establish a significant presence here.

Now, here in Nassau in the New Year,
they're going to have two full time
reporters here in Nassau County. And at
least a page or two of Nassau News,
devoted to Nassau news and more when
there's something significant going on.

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And last but not least, they're also going to devote a significant amount of time and publishing space to our local sports teams. That's something that *Newsday* does. I'll say that. And they're going to be doing that as well. And they've got a much better sports section overall. I'll tell you that. At least that's my opinion. Much more robust.

The reporting staff has been hollowed out in recent years. They have a couple local people and for the most part they rely on wire services for their news. You look at it and that's all you see for national/international. It's all AP and other wire services.

So all in all, this is a well considered decision. It will not preclude -- by the way, the way things are structured will not preclude the County from publishing items in *Newsday* as well as appropriate. But all in all, this is a good decision. It is a good decision for the people of the county and

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it is not going to detract at all from the ability of the county residents, which is the purpose of these notices. It's not going to detract at all, given the lack of paywall from anyone in the county checking these things on a daily basis as needed.

Legislator Bynoe?

LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Thank you. So the paywall issue I would consider legit as a concern, but we are seeing currently that the subscriber numbers are solid with *Newsday*. Just today when I had the class in here, as I do normally when I have a class in here, I explained to them what legislators do, and I explained that we legislate. It's in our name, right? We create laws, we vet laws, we vote on laws. That we're fiduciaries, that we manage the funds of the County. But I explained to them, the most important role of government of elected leaders is that we connect them to resources, that we are the access to government. And

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access alone is not enough; awareness is.

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And so *Newsday*, as a means for

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promulgating any of the legal notices and

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etcetra, that we would be engaging them

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for, I think it's shortsighted to say

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that we're not doing that, because we

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don't feel that they have sided with our

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policies, our philosophy, and our

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political leanings. I have felt misquoted

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by *Newsday*. I have felt that I didn't get

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a fair shake with *Newsday*. But at the end

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of the day, my job is in this role is not

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to worry about how *Newsday* has treated

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me. It's about how they're serving our

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public. So to say that we're not going to

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support *Newsday* because we don't agree

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with how they have dealt with us. I think

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it's shortsighted. It's inappropriate,

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and it has no place in government or in

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this chamber.

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Thank you.

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PRESIDING OFFICER KOPEL: Okay.

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Legislator Ferretti, of course.

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LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Thank you,